



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT**

Docket Number:
2880/347

Application Number
09/853,760

Filing Date
May 14, 2001

Examiner
Michael B. Priddy

Art Unit
3732

Invention Title
**MINIMALLY TRAUMATIC SURGICAL
DEVICE FOR TISSUE TREATMENT**

Inventor(s)
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Address to:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

1. In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in conformance with the procedures of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609, attorneys for Applicants hereby bring the attached references to the attention of the Examiner. These references are listed on the attached modified PTO Form No. 1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.
2. The references were cited in the International Search Report of the related PCT/EP 02/05117. Copies of the references listed on Form 1449 are enclosed, together with a copy of the International Search Report.
3. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600. A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed for charging purposes.

Dated: 10-31-02

By:

Julie E. Stein (Reg. No. 43,158)

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